(hi) what are the welfare schemes that have been modified and to what extent these plans will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) *The Natioanl Health* Policy *inter-alia* envisaged achieving a Birth Rate of 21 per thousand popu lation by the *e°d* of 2000 A.D. Accord ing to the Seventh Five Year Plan, a birth rate of 29.1 per thousand population is aimed by the end of the Plan pericd i.e. in 1990. j

The Family Welfare Programme during the 7th Pian hove a well defined strategy. The strategy emphasises on optimal use of infrastructure created: involvement of vo-luntary organisations; improving quality of services, enhrerfinp child survival; stregthening of information, education and ccmmi'nicctionl; promotion *of* temporary contraceptive methods; incentives fcr terminal methods etc. No major change in the strategy is contemplated at present.

MicroFeve] planning for utilisation of' renevabe resources

445. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister has recom-mended the launching of an experimental five year programme of application of Science and Technology to Microlevel planning for utilisation of renewable resources for a series of micro-catchments representing the different logical zones of the countiy;

(b) if so, what' are the other main features of the repcrt submitted by the Council; and

(c) tho total amount likely to be involved and to what extent the programme has been examined by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-NOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IM THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN .DEVELOPMENT!-, ATOMIC ENERGV, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, SIR

(b) The main features of the report are: |

Council considers good management of our endowment of natural resources of soil, water, vegetation, livestock and gentic diversity as one of the most significant chiallengjes before the nation. Our development *eflorts* have tended to stress intensification of resource use, tne consequences of which have been disastrous; large scale soil erosion, siltation, floods and droughts, water logging and salination, lowering of ground water table, gradual depletion of ferti-tility of fields, extensive deforestation and overgrazing hy cfetttei and goats. Since the problem's are highly location specific it is proposed that these could be solved by a cooperative endeavour •Vivolving scientific and technical experts, development planners, local educational institutions and other organisations such as Y^{uva}k ^{an}d mahila maa-dals and rriandal panchayats

(c) The report has envisaged a budget of Rs. 50 crore for the programme. However, Government ig expected to request the State Science and Technology Councils to formulate the proposals for their respective States in the light of recommendations of the report.

setting up of a task force to promote (he use o) electronics

446. SHRI , SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MTNTSTER be pleased to state:

(b) whether it is a fact the Department of Electronics ^{r}nas constituted a ten Member task force to promote the use j ol electronics in fh$_{e}$ basic health care of rural masses;

(b) if so, what will be tne main features of the task force; and

(c) whether any concrete programme has been formulated and by what time the same are likeiy to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SYATE IN THE MINISTRY *OP* SCIENCE AT^D TECH-NOLOGY AND THE MTNlSTER OF

STATE IN IHE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENHRGY. ELECTRONICS. AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes. Sir. A task force on "Electronics for Heal' care" has been set up by Department of Electronics (DoE) in August 1988 with 15 members.

(b) The Task Force has the following terms of reference:—)

(i) The requirement of electronics ia alth care for the Eighth and Ninth Pla as also to seek a target for the year 2000.

(2) To study the various manufactur ing facilities available in the country and to identify tne requirement of speci- ic *ivmpomnts* and equipment that woukl be rtquiied to meet the demand of 'Ne Electronic Health Care Equipment.

(J) To sludy the existing Import Po-iicy *mi* duty structure on imported equpnient vis-a-vis indegenoiis manuafcture, especially the anomaly of zero impC't dutj on finished imported equipment vis-a-.as 40—250 per cent import duty on components and sub-assemblies fc +tie same and to suggest suitable re- edies. ' (4) To look at various excise and wdes tax a^plicabl? to manufacutred produc *ana* to suggest means of bring- g them in line with similar duties on ipo\ted equipment. (5) To interface with the Ministry of Health to suggest ways and means for setti.i? up district health care centres equipped with mostmodern electronic equioment in health care so as to disperse the heriefit of modern Health Care to tho rural poor. fc) Task Force is expected to submit its reprrt % Mw end of November, 1988. Concrete programm;, will be evolved thereafter.

Fitmncial assistance 'for flood control work

447 SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent problem of floods contd have been effectively controlled;

(b) whelher the Union Governmeat have considered and have taken final deci sion to provide Cantral help to control floods and the devastation that has been caused due to these floods; and

(c) if so, what are the main proposals being considered by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Flood management measures are taken in anticipation of a certain level of floods. In case of floods of unprecedented nature such as one that occurred in some areas during the last monsoon, the cost-effectiveness of the measures that can be taken include flood warnings and better regulation of economic activities in the flood-prone zones, in addition to such structural measures as may be possible at specific loca tions. Even though the piimary responsibility for flood management and maintenance of flood control structures rests with the State Government, the Central Gov- ernment has been extending all technical assistance, flood warnings and also give loan assistance to the State of Assam and on a few projects to other States. Central Government has also established the Brahmaptra Board and the Ganga Flood Control Commission for integrated planning of flood management works and measures.

Family Welfare Programmes

448. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article in the October 31, 1988 issue of "Tnd'a Today" in which the great hoax of family welfare programmes bas been exposed;

(b) whether Government ar$_e$ aware that though this hoax not only Government are beine fed with fals~ figures of achievement but laree amounts of money are also being swindled; and

fc) if so, what stem Government propose to take to streamline the system and prevent mis-use of funds for the purpose?